

# THE BELL RINGER



HOMEcoming FLYER

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

OCT 14, 1994

## Honorary Chairman Remembers Past Homecomings

Mrs. Tommy Owen has been chosen as the first Honorary Chairman of the Spaghetti Supper. Daniel McGugin recently interviewed Mrs. Owen. The next installment of her memories of Coach Owen and MBA will appear in a post-Homecoming issue of the *Bell Ringer*.

"The Spaghetti Supper and Homecoming games were always a little sticky as far as Tommy was concerned. Back in the days of the raffle tickets there was a very, very fierce competition between classes as to who would sell the most and who got the day off on Monday. Sometimes the players would lose focus on what

the whole thing was about. They would get too wound up in how many tickets were

Daniel McGugin we were supposed to have won, we'd lose; games we were supposed to have lost, we

coming game.

As far as the Spaghetti Supper, it's really strange. . .

tions. You go to schools all over the country. But even after graduating from college, I notice that so many of the men seem to cling to MBA as their true family. They look forward to coming back to MBA to see their friends. I feel the Spaghetti Supper is the vehicle for all of them to get back together. This is the time of year set aside for Homecoming. It's amazing. . . I hope the Spaghetti Supper will go on forever because this is a time when you young men will be coming back to your families and seeing friends. It is just a special time, a special moment in MBA life that is very outstanding and very much needed."



An Owen homecoming at MBA: Mrs. Tommy Owen, Honorary Spaghetti Supper Chairman (center) with Mr. Owen and family.

being sold or what girl they were taking out that night, and one thing or another; and the games

would win; it was just one of those things. You never quite knew what to expect on a Home-

Through the years I've noticed that you young people graduate and just get thrown in all direc-

## New Board Member Appointed - by Zach Skipper

Mrs. Varina Buntin has been appointed to the Board of Directors to serve a three-year term. As a mother and wife of MBA alumni she brings an unique perspective to the board. Director of Development Tom Weaver calls Mrs. Buntin a "leader who is dedicated to serving the school and who knows the community well."

Mrs. Buntin has served on the Board



of the Ensworth School, as president of the MBA Mother's Auxiliary, and on the Board of the Junior League. Currently, she is a member of the Board of Harpeth Hall,

where her daughter Varina is a student. Mr. Weaver has said of Mrs. Buntin that she will be "a smart, sound contributor" to all that occurs on the hill, because she has served in a "variety of roles." A recent article in the *Nashville Banner* highlighted Mrs. Buntin's appointment and quoted her as saying, "I just consider it a privilege. MBA exemplifies all that is excellent."

## Golf Update - by Haynes Gentry

Over the past five weeks, the much-feared MBA golf team has continued to terrorize all the plush courses Metro has to offer. The mighty squad, led by fearless leader, senior Cooper Jones, has maintained its annual tradition of mowing down the tough opponents from the traditional "golf academies" such as Pearl Cohn and Hillsboro.

At the end of the regular season, the team

had posted a modest, but somewhat disappointing, record of 12-5-1, with a third place finish in the Bruin Invationals. After a strong win against Overton, the team placed second in the district competition, with Jones leading the way, shooting a 73.

Despite some setbacks, the golf team is confident in its ability to do well in competition. The team now

*Continued on back*



### The History of the Spaghetti Supper - by Bill McGugin

On October 15, MBA will celebrate Homecoming for the 61st time. Homecoming has played a pivotal role in MBA tradition. Homecoming celebrations remind us of the history of the school as a whole. As Director of Studies Mr. Demong has stated, "The spaghetti supper does more to build a sense of community than any other event at MBA. It also enables

the Mother's Auxiliary to make purchases and support programs that enrich the ... school life of every young man at MBA." In 1933, MBA held its first Homecoming Day, to mark a football game against traditional rival, Battle Ground Academy. The first annual dinner sponsored by the Mothers' Auxiliary was held in February 1937. It preceded the BGA-MBA

basketball game. The dinner netted \$26.00.

The Spaghetti Supper we know today started in 1943 when it was moved to the fall so that it occurred before the Homecoming football game. A full-scale reunion called Alumni Day was initiated on May 11, 1950, with softball, baseball, tennis, and a talent show. Barbecue was offered for \$1.25 per plate.

A few years ago, class reunions were moved to Homecoming weekend. Fund-raisers were added over the years, such as a bake-sale, an auction, and a raffle. Tickets for the raffle were sold until that became illegal. As early as the 1950's, young girls from area schools were invited to serve as waitresses. They wore white pinafores and were often pictured in the news-

paper, as this duty was considered a great honor.

Within the last few years, MBA Freshmen have joined the Freshmen girls as waiters. The dinner now nets over \$30,000, with the proceeds benefiting the school in many ways. Homecoming weekend has become a crucial part of school history. It is a way for Big Red loyalists to show their support for the school.

### Victory Over Ryan Starts Red Rolling -by Stratton Huggins

After a miraculous comeback defeat of the Irish, the Big Red's football season rolled ahead. The first region game against Clarksville NW was a lopsided victory, with MBA winning handily 37-0.

The Big Red dominated on both sides of the ball, with sensational pass receptions by Ted Morrissey and two interceptions by Fletcher Tidwell. The younger players got their first chance to play in the second half of this shutout.

After putting such a large victory behind them, MBA travelled to Central Hardin, Kentucky, to battle against a drastically improved team. Despite the absence of senior stalwart Dave Sifford due to a back injury, the defense rallied from a slow start, holding the Bruins to only one touchdown. At the 17-8 conclusion of the game, the Big Red had nothing but the

Creek on their minds. This regional match-up was an enormous for MBA.

Although severe rain and lightning delayed the game on Fri-

able fumble by the Creek, the Big Red was faced with the Creek approaching the goal. After a tough goal-line stand on three plays from the one yard line, Whites



day night, the team was prepared for battle. The defense came out with great intensity and held the Creek to only one first down in the first half. The Big Red offense drove the field in the first half, but failed to convert on fieldgoal attempts.

In the second half, MBA held its ground, but not long enough. After a drive that had involved a question-

Creek was eventually able to convert a 17 yard field goal that was just good. Despite the score, the the Big Red offense took the ball and marched down for a last-second field goal that unfortunately could not be converted. Although it was a tough loss, the defense had held Gary Barnes, who had previously rushed for 340 yards in 4 games, to only 35 yards rushing.

From this point on in the season, Coach Bowers inspired the team to roll on to its next game against non-regional foe Hillsboro, where it improved its record to 4-1. The last game for the Big Red was at Clarksville NE, who played their first on-campus home game.

The Big Red was preparing for a very fast team. The Red continued its onward movement, routing Clarksville NE on their home turf, 31-16. The Big Red comes home tonight, on October 14th for its Homecoming match-up with the good-old boys from Henry County. Henry County will present a fairly evenly matched game that should not be missed. Whatever you do, make sure you come out and help support the Big Red in its quest towards the state tournament.

### Golf...

(continued)

focuses on the region tournament in which they are confident they can rediscover those suave swings that will carry them to the state tournament.

Mr. Caldwell, the coach of the Golf team, has said that "for the first time in my memory, we're going into a regional tournament where four different teams can win. If we play up to our capabilities, I feel that we'll be the winner."

#### THE BELL RINGER

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